

Application No.: 09/424,966

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Docket No.: 247322001700

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28 are pending in the present application. By virtue of this amendment, some of the claims have been amended without prejudice or disclaimer of any previously claimed subject matter.

This RCE was filed in order to have entered the claim amendments in the Amendment After Final, filed on May 5, 2003. In the Advisory Action (Paper #16), in addition to indicating that those claim amendments would not be entered, the Examiner also indicated that claims 6, 10, 18 and 22 were still rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph.

In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 6, 10, 18 and 22 to address the indefiniteness issue raised by the Examiner, namely the issue of "pairs" of semiconductor elements. The claims have also been amended, where appropriate, to clarify the spatial relationship of the gate terminal, the channel region and the gate insulating film.

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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant(s) petition(s) for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 247322001700.

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Respectfully submitted,

By   
Alan S. Hodes  
Registration No.: 38,185  
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP  
755 Page Mill Road  
Palo Alto, California 94304  
(650) 813-5622  
Attorneys for Applicant

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